



EXHIBIT A

PATENT
Docket No. 2026-4202US4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank CUTTITTA et al.
Serial No. : Divisional of 09/011,922 Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Filed : Herewith (August 16, 2001) Examiner: To Be Assigned
For : **Functional Role of Adrenomedullin (AM) and the Gene-Related Product (PAMP) in Human Pathology and Physiology**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified divisional patent application, entry and consideration of this amendment are respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacing/rewriting the paragraphs as indicated.

At page 3, please replace/rewrite paragraph 2 from lines 16-35, as follows:

(Amended)

AM's role as a vasodilatory agent has been extensively studied (C. Nuki et al., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 196, 245 (1993); Q. Hao et al., Life Sci. 54, 265 (1994); D. Y. Cheng et al., Life Sci., 55, 251 (1994); C. J. Feng, B. Kang, A. D. Kaye, P. J. Kadowitz, B. D. Nossaman, Life Sci., 433 (1994)). It acts through specific receptors in the plasma membrane to activate adenylate cyclase activity and modulate

